

STATE OF MAINE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 2004-538

October 22, 2004

MAINE PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY  
Request to Construct Transmission Line  
of 100 or More Kilovolts from Limestone, Maine  
to Canadian Border Near Hamlin, Maine

PROCEDURAL ORDER

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An initial case conference in the above-referenced matter was held on October 7, 2004. Based on the proceedings at the conference the following orders are entered.

**I. INTERVENTION**

The Notice of Proceedings issued on August 24, 2004 provided interested persons with an opportunity to intervene. Timely petitions to intervene were filed by Houlton Water Company (HWC), the Office of the Public Advocate (OPA), Van Buren Light & Power District (Van Buren), WPS Energy Services, Inc. (WPS), Loring Bioenergy, LLC (LBE), the Northern Maine Independent System Administrator, Inc. (NMISA), Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative (EMEC), and ISO New England, Inc. (ISO-NE). On September 9, 2004 ISO-NE filed a letter with the Commission, withdrawing its request for intervenor status and asking instead that ISO-NE be added to the interested persons service list. Good Cause appearing therefore, and there being no objections, the petitions for intervention of HWC, the OPA, Van Buren, WPS, LBE, NMISA and EMEC are granted. ISO-NE will be added to the interested persons service list as requested.

In addition to the above-referenced petitions, the Commission received a petition for limited party status for the purpose of filing briefs and participating in policy discussions from Central Maine Power Company (CMP) and from Bangor Hydro-Electric Company (BHE). CMP's and BHE's petitions for limited intervention are also granted without objection.

**II. INITIAL DISCOVERY/SUPPLEMENTAL FILING**

Several oral data requests were posed to MPS at the case conference. The responses to these initial data requests will serve as a supplement to the Company's initial filing of October 4, 2004 and taken together will constitute the Company's direct case. The Company's responses to the initial oral data requests will be due on November 5, 2004.

**III. INITIAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE**

A technical conference on the Company's direct case has been scheduled for **November 18, 2004** beginning at 9:00 a.m. and, if necessary, on **November 19, 2004**



beginning at 9:00 a.m. At such time, the Company will make available to respond to questions from the Bench and the parties; its own personnel, its consultants ABB, who have prepared studies to support the Company's filing, and personnel from New Brunswick Power (NB Power) to address issues concerning the Canadian portion of the proposed transmission line.

#### **IV. SCHEDULE**

The schedule for the remainder of the case will be addressed at the conclusion of the initial technical conference.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2004.

BY ORDER OF THE HEARING EXAMINER

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Charles Cohen